

**WHAT IS CLAIMED:**

Accordingly, the invention should only be limited by the Claims included below.

We claim

- 1        1.     A method of obtaining and displaying to a user, information that is  
2        relevant to a construction project, said method comprising the steps of:  
3                storing in a database, design data, said design data including at  
4        least one material list quantity associated with the electronic design;  
5                automatically exporting at least one design element;  
6                retrieving the design data which was exported;  
7                associating retrieved design data with user input data; and  
8                displaying to the user, the design data associated to the user input  
9        data.

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- 1        2.     The method of claim 1 wherein the design data is initially stored in a  
2        design database, and the step of storing the design data in the user  
3        database includes importing the design data from an electronic drawing  
4        software application tool.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the design data includes  
2 construction project material information, and the method further  
3 comprises exporting that information into a graphical user interface.  
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1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the user is a project manager,  
2 planner or estimator; the design data is construction building information;  
3 and the input data is material quantities, and the step of electronically  
4 viewing the design and input data includes the steps of:

5 storing the design and input data into a memory; and  
6 interfacing the memory with a database application that  
7 electronically stores the data for use by the user.

1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of retrieving data includes  
2 automatically importing data from a precision estimating application.

1 6. A system for obtaining and displaying to a user, information that is  
2 relevant to a construction project, said system comprising:

3 a user database for storing design data from computer aided design  
4 software, said design data including at least one design material; an  
5 interface that automatically imports computer aided design information and  
6 retrieves design information in which the design data is utilized;

7 means for associating the retrieved design data with quantities and

8 descriptions; and

9 a user display that displays the design data, a list of the materials, a  
10 quantity associated with each material and a description associated with  
11 each material.

1 7. The system of claim 6 wherein the design data from a computer  
2 aided design application is initially exported into a design database, and  
3 the system further comprises means for importing the design data from the  
4 design database into the user database.

1 8. The system of claim 6 wherein the user is a project manager and  
2 the design data is construction information and is relevant to the user.

1 9. The system of claim 6 further comprising:  
2 a memory for storing the exported design data;  
3 means for creating a document by the user, said document creating  
4 means including means for importing information from a database and  
5 utilizing the data in the document; and  
6 a report generation application interfaced with the document  
7 creating means that electronically creates work plan documents initiated by  
8 the user for a time period selected by the user.

1        10.    A system for processing and outputting construction execution  
2            documents in the construction industry comprising:

3            a central processing unit; knowledge base database; computer aided  
4            design interface means for exporting element and assembly information to  
5            ascii file; estimating software interface for maintaining the material list  
6            information to knowledge base database; application means of updating  
7            material, assembly and element data; cost update means to recalculate  
8            costs; report generation means to output construction work plan; project  
9            means to output project plan for a user specified period; report means to  
10          generate construction execution documents and computer aided design  
11          means to import updated element and assembly data.

1        11.    The system of claim 10, wherein computer aided design means  
2            redraws assemblies and elements in green to show project status as  
3            on-time.

1        12.    The system of claim 10, wherein the computer aided design means  
2            redraws assemblies and elements in the color yellow to show project  
3            status as in process.

1        13.    The system of claim 10, wherein the computer aided design means  
2            redraws assemblies and elements in the color red to show project

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status as behind schedule.